

Wednesday Morning, Dec. 30, 1868.

A Missing Proclamation.

The following communication, copied from the Washington Evening Express, of Saturday, contains a most remarkable statement, which cannot fail to create a marked sensation. The writer of it is well known to us, was a former resident of Columbia, and we have every confidence in the reliability of his statements:

The New York Sun ventilates a statement by E. A. Pollard, of the secret existence of confidential records of the Confederate Government. That this is so, may be readily believed, and that they will ultimately be discovered, is equally probable. But this mere statement and belief is not my purpose. I desire to call attention to other "missing records" from the archives of the Government of the United States, or, if they be not missing, to the fact that the public seems to have no knowledge of them, and I am but too well convinced that the statement I am about to make will, in some quarters, awaken a smile of incredulity; in others, a fear of further disclosures, while the general public will give neither thought nor attention to it.

It will be remembered that on the inauguration of Mr. Lincoln, South Carolina deputed three commissioners to negotiate (to be concise) terms of separation, and settle up the business of the partnership, as far as that State was concerned. Of course, Mr. Seward sought to gain time for the new administration, and refused to see or acknowledge them officially, &c., but still lured them to remain. At last, they despatched to the Executive of their State belief in the utter hopelessness of peaceful solution, and announced their purpose to leave the capital. This resolve was not executed, simply because Judge Campbell was authorized to say that if their departure was delayed, results might be obtained they little hoped for. On this hint, they lingered, but only to be disappointed, and then they took their departure.

If the reader has noticed the overture of Judge Campbell to delay the commissioners, he will suppose that gentleman had some ground for his opinion, and had reasonable assurances that a happy issue, in his judgment, would grow out of the delay he craved. What those grounds and assurances were, can only be conjectured; but they must have proceeded from high official sources; and, viewed in the light of what I am about to say, and which is true as demonstration, makes conjecture reality.

Shortly after the breaking off of efforts to avert the dire catastrophe of war, a gentleman, having free access to the private office of President Lincoln, repaired to the capital of South Carolina, and deposited with a high official of that State, a manuscript proclamation by President Lincoln, duly prepared and ready for his signature, announcing to the American people, that rather than plunge the country in civil war, the Executive Government of the United States acquiesced in the dismemberment of the Union. With this, was a column editorial, in slip form, with corrections, supposed to be Mr. Lincoln's, reciting freely the words of the instrument, vindicating the Executive act, and challenging for it the approval of the American people.

This is my statement of the missing record. That it was not issued, was due to the intense feeling evoked by the firing on the Star of the West. A few questions, and I have done: 1st. Was the knowledge of the preparation of this document, the foundation of the request of Judge Campbell, that the commissioners should not depart?

2d. Does the State Department preserve evidence of the existence of this paper, or has all trace disappeared, save only in the mind of the Secretary?

3d. Who prepared the editorial defence of the proposed proclamation? I will not defy contradiction of the statement herein made, but from personal inspection of both documents, and certain ear-marks inherent in the second, I affirm their genuineness as confidently as I believe in the existence of my being.

A SIGNIFICANT FACT.—The New York Citizen, (formerly edited by the lamented General Halpine,) says, that it is a fact worthy of note, that at the gathering of Union soldiers in Chicago, not a negro soldier was present, nor any recognition of their services in the proceedings. This, at a meeting where the radical President-elect participated, and was the central figure, is significant.

The general amnesty proclamation of President Johnson excites little comment in Washington, and is regarded as a matter of little moment by Democrats and moderate Republicans. Extreme radicals, however, deem it to be another Presidential "outrage," and a few of the more violent suggest another impeachment.

The recent exposures in a morning daily paper of the short weights and adulteration of articles of food, suggests the question whether cheating has not become one of the fine arts and the fashion of the day. Have all classes become cheats in their business, asks the New York Citizen, and adopted the policy of shaving generally? for it appears that "The barber shaves with polished blade, The merchant shaves in constant trade, The broker shaves on twelve per cent, The landlord shaves by raising rent, The doctor shaves in patent pills, The taster shaves the pints and gills, The farmer shaves in hay and oats, The banker shaves on his own notes, The lawyer shaves both friends and foes, The peddler shaves where'er he goes, The office-holder shaves the nation, The parson shaves to men's salvation, The wily churchman shaves his brother, The people all shave one another."

MUCH MARRIED.—A Kentucky school-master fell in love with one of his pupils, and married her, although she was only thirteen. As he used to scold her, like the child she was, she went back to her mother, and he roamed off elsewhere. After a while each was informed of the other's death, and each proposed to marry again. The girl's second choice very kindly died in a year or so, and as did the school-master's, when he married a third time, only to be divorced. About two weeks ago this much married couple met by chance, joined their fortunes again, and as the girl has arrived at years of discretion, they expect to be happy.

GEN. BUTLER IN THE NEW CABINET. It is rumored around Washington that Gen. Grant will present as a peace offering to Gen. Butler the position of Attorney-General in his Cabinet. It is doubtful whether Ben. will accept. The radicals are anxious to get him out of the House of Representatives, but as he can make more noise in Congress than in the Cabinet, the presumption is that he will stick.—New York Herald.

The famous Grand Dutchess de Gerolstein Schneider received a bracelet valued at \$15,000, from an English lord, during her visit to Baden-Baden. The donor's name and title were set in diamonds. "What a pity," exclaimed the actress, when she received it, "that he is not a Spanish nobleman—his name would have been so much longer."

A despatch to the Philadelphia Evening Telegraph, from Baltimore, reports the suspension of the house of Turnbull, Slade & Co., for about \$1,000,000. It is stated that nearly all the banks of the city are interested. Several heavy failures have occurred in Baltimore during the past week.

In pegging boots, by steam, twenty cases, or 240 pairs of boots, is a usual day's work. One man in Hopkinton, Mass., has pegged eighty-three cases, 1,982 boots, in two days. He once pegged forty-nine boots, twice around, in fourteen minutes; and did one boot, in a trial of speed, in thirteen seconds.

Great Britain is after a new colony. An Australian company has bought rights in the Feejee Islands, and 1,000 emigrants have settled, built houses, and begun to cultivate crops. The natives disapprove of these proceedings, and have attacked the settlement, killing the colonists wherever they can reach them.

The Reformed Dutch Church, at Ghent, New York, was destroyed by fire Christmas morning. It was a large wooden edifice, and one of the oldest churches in the country. A Christmas festival was held there at night, which probable accounts for the origin of the fire.

The family of John McDonald, of Philadelphia, were suffocated on Thursday night, by the gas from a coal stove which was burning all night in their bed-room. One daughter is dead and another is not expected to recover.

An Alabama editor, in puffing a grocery store kept by a woman, says: "Her tomatoes are as red as her own cheeks; her indigo as blue as her own eyes; and her pepper as hot as her own temper."

A gentleman, eighty years of age, in Conway, recently got married, and the day following dug his grave, to be ready, he said, for any contingency.

The inhabitants of Louisiana call the late disagreeable spell "carpet-bag weather," because it does not belong to their climate.

Tommy Donaldson, a little cub only six years old, was caught in Providence setting two buildings on fire.

A man writing an anonymous note is like a puppy inside of an enclosure barking at you with his nose under the gate.

When you want a warm bath and can't pay for one, just pull your neighbor's nose, and you'll soon be in hot water.

Let our repentance be a lively will, a firm resolution. Complaints and mourning over past errors avail nothing.

It is more from carelessness about the truth than from intentional lying that there is so much falsehood in the world.

An editor says women live longer than men. The married ones do who sit up nights waiting the return of a drunken husband.

Dr. Johnson used to say, "He who waits to do a great deal of good at once will never do any."

Riches got by deceit cheat no man so much as the getter.

Modern sea of troubles—Currency.

COLUMBIA AGENCY,
SOUTH CAROLINA RAILROAD COMPANY,
COLUMBIA, S. C., Dec. 29, 1868.

On behalf of the South Carolina Railroad Company, I respectfully return thanks to the Firemen, Garrison, and Citizens in general, for timely and effectual assistance in subduing the recent fire, and to the "Independent's" for the use of their hose in saving the "debris."

Dec 30 1 C. J. BOLLIN, Agent.

New Year Gifts.

REMEMBER THE NIGHT.

ON NEW YEAR EVE, at 7 o'clock, a splendid RAFFLE of a handsome assortment of richly ornamented Pound and Plain Cake, together with many Fancy Articles, suitable for New Year presents, at JOHN H. HEISE'S.

Three doors below R. C. Shiver's Dry Goods store. Dec 30 2*

Greenville and Columbia R. R. Co., PRESIDENT'S OFFICE.

COLUMBIA, S. C., December 28, 1868.

NOTICE is hereby given that at a recent meeting of the Board of Directors of this Company, it was determined to pay the six months' interest upon our mortgage and guaranteed debt, falling due on the 1st day of JANUARY next; Provided, the holders of the said mortgage and guaranteed bonds, and certificates of indebtedness, will fund all interest accruing upon them up to July 1st, 1868.

We are, however, compelled to suspend the payment until the Legislature validates the Acts of 1861 and 1865, authorizing the guarantee of the State upon our bonds, because until that is done, we cannot fund the back interest in the same security which it now has.

When such action is taken by the Legislature, notice will be immediately given and payments and settlements made, in accordance with the above terms.

Dec 30 H. P. HAMMETT, President.

New Goods at Smythe's.

I HAVE just received a large assortment of Late Style HAT,

consisting in part of Silk

and Cassimere Beavers,

Alpine and Soft Felt, Cassimere and Wool. Cloth and

Glaze CAPS in variety.

Also, a large assortment of

Ladies', Gent's, Misses',

Boys', Youths' and Children's BOOTS and

SHOES, at prices to suit all.

Dec 30 A. SMYTHE.

TOILET REQUISITES.

FRENCH NOVELTIES—Perfumery,

Extracts, Odors, Bouquets, Fountains,

Antique Oil, German Cologne, Lubin's

Extracts and Powder, Royal Lavender,

Perfumed Crackers, French Bonnades, "Cos-

metique," English Hair Brushes, Dressing

Combs, assorted; Fine Tooth Combs, Eng-

lish and French Tooth Brushes; Elegant

Toilet Soap—Rose, Almond, Honey, Gly-

cerine, Windsor, Zahater, Skin Soap, for

the complexion; Powder Puffs and Boxes,

in variety; Toilet Waters; all very cheap at

FISHER & HEINITSH'S

Dec 20† Drug Store.

Pure Ground Spices for Family Use.

TO obtain a pure article of Pepper, Ginger, Cinnamon and SPICES generally, in a ground state, fit to use, has been a very difficult matter heretofore. The subscribers have now in store Ground Spices, of warranted purity and superiority. No one need hesitate to buy the Ground Spices from their store—they are just what is wanted in every family—a pure Ground Spice, ready for use.

Ground Pepper, Mace, Tapioca, "Ginger, Nutmegs, Broma, "Spice, Chocolate, "Cinnamon, Cox's Gelatine, "Cloves, English Mustard, "Arrowroot, Sago, Cocoa.

For sale by FISHER & HEINITSH,

Dec 10† Drugists.

Rats! Rats!! Rats!!!

HARVEY'S CURE—FOR RATS, Mice, Roaches, Ants, &c. This exterminator is effectual for the destruction of Rats. It is better than any other preparation. It compels rats and mice to avoid their holes or nests after eating it, and to seek the open air until they die. Look after your Corn-cribs and store-rooms.

For sale by FISHER & HEINITSH,

Dec 8† Drugists.

SPECIALITIES.

PORT MONIES AND PURSES.

DECIDEDLY the largest and best selection of the real Russia Leather POCKET BOOKS and PURSES. Suitable for ladies and gentlemen, at

E. POLLARD'S.

PIPES! PIPES!!

THE real Meerschaum and Briar Root PIPES, the largest and best selection ever offered in this city. Also a fine assortment of Cherry Stems, with a variety of Meerschaum Segar Holders and Tobacco Bags. Just received at

E. POLLARD'S.

WALKING CANES.

JUST opened, a large lot of fine polished CANES, both heavy and light. Also some pretty fancy Canes, at

E. POLLARD'S.

Wanted.

5,000 EMPTY CORN BAGS, 500 Empty Flour and Potato Barrels. FISHER & LOWRANCE.

Riches got by fraud are dug out of one's own heart, and destroy the mind.

If industry is no more than habit, it is at least an excellent one.

A legal tender act—Offering a lady your heart.

A natural slave—The sea surf.

For Sale.

THE BRICK of the Old Court House. Apply to D. B. MILLER, Clerk. Dec 29 6

Choice Table Potatoes, &c.
20 BARRELS Peach Blow POTATOES, 2,000 Lbs. New Lard—pure—just received and for sale by C. H. BALDWIN. Dec 29 2

Choice Flour.
50 BBLs. Superior St. Louis FLOUR, Bbl. Medium and Common. Just received and for sale at reduced prices, by C. H. BALDWIN. Dec 29 2

Another Supply of Golden Drip.
SUITABLE for Buckwheat Cakes. ALSO, First Quality Northern BUCKWHEAT FLOUR, just suited to the Drip. Dec 29 3 CAMPBELL & JONES.

For Rent.
SEVERAL ROOMS over Palmer's Tin Store, on Main street. Dec 25

To Rent.
A COTTAGE HOUSE, containing four rooms, with kitchen, out-houses, &c., within one square of Charlotte Depot. Apply at this Office. Dec 24

For Sale.
A FINE lot of young Kentucky MULES. They may be seen at Mr. Charles Logan's lot, corner of Senate and Assembly streets. W. S. TALBOTT. Dec 24 6*

Branchville Hotel to Rent.
THE attention of capitalists is particularly directed to the numerous advantages of the BRANCHVILLE HOTEL, from its peculiar situation, being at the junction of the Columbia, Augusta and Charleston Divisions of the South Carolina Railroad, and upon the direct line, North and South, it is insured the patronage of a large local and through travel.

Bids for its occupation for the ensuing year, will be received by H. T. PEAKE, General Superintendent South Carolina Railroad, at Charleston, S. C., until January 1. Dec 27 3

Furnished House to Rent.
ONE of the most pleasant and convenient COTTAGE HOUSES in the city, situated in a desirable neighborhood, is offered for RENT. Apply to EDWIN J. SCOTT. Dec 27 3

To License Holders.
CITY CLERK'S OFFICE, COLUMBIA, December 26, 1868.

PERSONS to whom the city authorities have granted License for selling spirituous LIQUORS and for other purposes, are notified that all Licenses expire on the FIRST of JANUARY NEXT.

Applications for renewal, accompanied by the required bond and the money, must be deposited with the City Clerk, on or before that date. J. S. McMAHON, City Clerk. Dec 27 5

To Rent.
MY PLANTATION, situated on Broad River, about ten miles above Columbia. It is good Corn and Cotton land. For further particulars address me through the Post Office. W. P. BOOKER. Dec 24 7*

Charlotte and S. O. Railroad Co.
TREASURER'S OFFICE, COLUMBIA, S. C., December 22, 1868.

Notice.
HOLDERS of Bonds of this Company, maturing January 1, 1869, also, of Coupons which matured prior to January 1, 1868, are invited to fund them in SEVEN PER CENT. COUPON BONDS. The Treasurer is prepared to issue the new Bonds, and where fractions of \$500 occur, Fractional Bonds, bearing 7 per cent. interest, will be issued therefor.

This Company has redeemed its Coupons which matured on and subsequent to January 1, 1868, and will continue to do so as they mature, at the Carolina National Bank in this city, and at the First National Bank, Charlotte, N. C. C. H. MANSON, Treasurer. Dec 22 9

White Corn.
FOR SALE by Dec 18 FISHER & LOWRANCE.

Cheap Overcoats,
For sale at J. Sulzbacher's. Dec 13

Wines and Liquors.
STOCK unusually full of the choicest brands SCOTCH WHISKY, French Brandy, Kentucky and Corn Whiskey, Champagne, Claret, Rhine Wines, Sherry, Madeira, and Port Wines. For sale at lowest prices, according to quality. GEO. SYMMERS. Dec 10

Smoked Meats, &c.
EXTRA Sugar-cured HAMS, Extra Fine Smoked Tongues, Smoked Salmon, Yarmouth Bloaters, Pickled Trout, Pickled Pig Pork, Pigs' Feet, No. 1 Bay Mackerel, Fulton Market Beef, and a full assortment of Fancy and Staple Groceries—for sale low, by GEORGE SYMMERS. Dec 15

FLOUR! FLOUR!!
100 BARRELS CHOICE FAMILY FLOUR, 100 Barrels Low Priced Flour, suitable for Retailers. 25 Bbls. Hecker's Self-Raising Flour, Just received and for sale low, by J. & T. R. AGNEW. Dec 12

Wolfe's Schiedam Schnaps.
FRESH SUPPLY received to-day, by Dec 12 FISHER & LOWRANCE.

Cotton Seed.
PARTIES having COTTON SEED for sale, may find it to their interest to call on the subscribers, or address them with quotations per ton or per 100 lbs. Dec 13 FISHER & LOWRANCE.

Cheap Overcoats,
For sale at J. Sulzbacher's. Dec 13

Local Items.

CASH.—Our terms are strictly cash. If an advertisement is to be inserted, hand over the money; if a paper is subscribed for, the money must accompany the order—otherwise no attention will be paid to them. This is a rule which will be adhered to.

Messrs. Charles Dendy and J. Fletcher Hodges—the one charged with the murder of Martin, and the other as an accessory in the murder of Randolph—were bailed by Judge Boozer, yesterday, in the sum of \$5,000 each. Attorney-General Chamberlain appeared for the State and R. A. Fair, Esq., for the prisoners.

The Abbeville Press announces the death, from a pulmonary affection, of Mrs. J. Foster Marshall, at her residence in that village, on Wednesday last. Mrs. Marshall was a native of Columbia, and the second daughter of the late Jesse DeBruhl, Esq. She was a devoted Christian and a kind parent.

Maj. Walton, the efficient Superintendent of the Greenville and Columbia Railroad Company, retires from that position on 1st of January, and is succeeded by Capt. W. Allston Gibbs. We extend our hearty good wishes to the incoming officer, and to the outgoing, abundant success in his contemplated avocation.

MASONIC.—The following officers, elected to serve their respective Lodges for the ensuing Masonic year, have been installed:

RICHLAND LODGE No. 39, A. F. M. C. F. Harrison, W. M.; G. T. Berg, S. W.; Richard Tozer, J. W.; J. G. Edwards, Treasurer; S. C. Peixoto, Secretary; W. K. Evans, Senior Deacon; E. B. Smith, Junior Deacon; A. DeLora, Tyler.

TRUE BROTHERHOOD LODGE No. 84, A. F. M.—C. E. Kirk, W. M.; C. D. Eberhardt, S. W.; Levi Gunter, J. W.; J. B. Williams, Treasurer; S. L. Leaphart, Secretary; A. DeLora, Tyler.

ACACIA LODGE No. 94, A. F. M. J. H. Diseker, W. M.; Alex. Oliver, S. W.; F. M. Drennan, Jr., J. W.; John Oliver, Treasurer; J. L. Dixon, Secretary; James King, Senior Deacon; John Wright, Junior Deacon; A. DeLora, Tyler.

COLUMBIA LODGE No. 108, A. F. M. M. Goldsmith, W. M.; I. Sulzbacher, S. W.; J. C. B. Smith, J. W.; J. A. Derrick, Treasurer; T. P. Purse, Secretary; J. Sulzbacher, Senior Deacon; — Levin, Junior Deacon; A. DeLora, Tyler.

REMOVAL OF POLITICAL DISABILITIES.—Among the persons whose political disabilities were removed by the Act recently passed by Congress, we notice the names of A. L. McCaslan and William Hill, of Abbeville County; William J. Mixson, of Barnwell; John F. Porteous, of Beaufort; George Buist, of Charleston; C. W. McFadden, of Chester; Charles B. Farmer, J. J. Klein, and John W. Burbridge, of Colleton; R. H. Edmunds, of Fairfield; William A. McDaniel, John H. Goodwin, Alex. McBee, H. M. Smith, and William E. Earle, of Greenville; W. H. Langston, of Laurens; John C. Secret, of Lancaster; Julius L. Shanklin, of Oconee; Thompson H. Cooke, Geo. Boliver, and William N. Mount, of Orangeburg; Spartan D. Goodlett, R. E. Holcombe, John W. Singleton, L. N. Robins, and James E. Hagood, of Pickens; John Hart and William H. Talley, of Richland; P. Quinn Camp, and A. E. Smith, of Spartanburg; R. L. Heriot, and John J. Knox, of Sumter.

FAST AND CHEAP PRINTING.—We have just added a fast card press—to the Degener & Weiler patent—to the machinery of the Phenix office; and have also made additions to our stock of fancy type, cards, paper, etc. Persons in want of any styles of book and job printing, are invited to call and examine samples and prices. Cards printed at shortest notice, and at prices varying from \$3 to \$10 per thousand.

MAIL ARRANGEMENTS.—The post office open during the week from 8½ a. m. to 6 p. m. On Sundays, from 4 to 5 p. m.

The Charleston and Western mails are open for delivery at 5 p. m., and close at 8½ p. m. Charleston night mail open 8½ a. m., close 4½ p. m. Northern—Open for delivery at 8½ a. m., closes at 2.45 p. m. Greenville—Open for delivery 5 p. m., closes at 8½ p. m.

Messrs. Bryan & McCarter have presented us with a copy of the Southern Almanac for 1869. It is gotten up in excellent style by Walker, Evans & Cogswell, Charleston, S. O.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.—Special attention is called to the following advertisements, published for the first time this morning:

New Goods at Smythe's. W. M. Beckham—Sale. Greenville and Columbia R. R. Jacob Levin—Auction Sale. C. J. Bollin—Columbia Agency. John H. Heise—New Year Gifts.

There is no mistake about it, PLANTATION BITTERS will ward off Fever and Ague and all kindred diseases, if used in time. No family need suffer from this distressing complaint, if they will keep PLANTATION BITTERS in the house, and use it according to directions. The most important ingredient of this medicine is the Calisaya or Peruvian Bark, which is known to be the finest and purest tonic in the vegetable kingdom. The extract of this Bark is the active principle of all the good Fever and Ague Medicines prescribed by intelligent doctors. Calisaya Bark is used extensively in the manufacture of PLANTATION BITTERS, as well as quinine, and we dare say they owe their popularity mostly to that fact. We can recommend them.

MAGNOLIA WATER—Superior to the best imported German Cologne, and sold at half the price. D251143

Christmas and New Year's Presents for Young and Old!

A VARIETY OF JUVENILE BOOKS—Fine and cheap editions of the Standard PICTORIAL WORKS, British and American; Photograph ALBUMS, (50 styles,) from 75 cents to \$12.00. STEREOSCOPES, and Pictures to match: CHROMOS, beautiful; Foreign ENGRAVINGS; Rosewood and Mahogany Writing Desks; Portfolios; Work Boxes, all sizes; Gold Pencils; Gold Pens; Ink-stands; Pocket Knives; Diaries for 1869, (very neat) also, a new variety of Methodist, Lutheran, Presbyterian and Baptist HYMN BOOKS; Episcopal and Catholic Prayer Books; Fine Pocket and Family BIBLES, &c., from England, all styles, just received, at BRYAN & MCCARTER'S Book Store. Dec 22 10

Fresh Arrival

OF OVERCOATS,

BUSINESS SUITS,

PEA JACKETS,

HATS, &c.

BOUGHT

LOW DOWN,

AND

WILL

BE SOLD

AT

A SMALL

ADVANCE

ON COST.

R. & W. C. SWAFFIELD.

Dec 20

THE NEW ALMANAC.

HEINITSH'S QUEEN'S DELIGHT ALMANAC—Just published. A new and valuable book—full of good advice, correct prognostications of the weather; garden Calendar for every one; the way to health pointed out, and other useful hints. No charge for them. At FISHER & HEINITSH'S Drug Store. Dec 19†

Billiard Tables for Sale.

FOUR FINE BILLIARD TABLES, in complete order, Marble and Slate Bedding, with Balls, Cues and Counters included. Sharp & Griffith's make. Will be sold low. Call at Dec 13 G. DIERCK'S.